

Amendments to Claims as per this response.

MARKED VERSION

- 5 Without conceding the validity of the examiner's argument or the undemonstrated prima facie, and to expedite prosecution of the application, the claims are hereby amended as below and we respectfully seek the examiner's permission to add the following amendments as detailed.

- 10 Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method operative at a server for negotiating and managing loan syndication over a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to post a requirement to syndicate a loan ~~facility opportunity~~ by a first entity over a network;

- 15 displaying information about said requirement accessible by a plurality of entities over a network;

- 20 in response to said requirement, said first entity receiving offers ~~offers an online comment~~ from one or more second entities ~~wherein said offer includes at least a comment about~~ conditions and terms of said loan opportunity over a network;

- 25 in response to said comment, enabling said first entity to negotiate said conditions and terms with said second entity or other different second entities over a network about committing at least a portion of said loan ~~facility opportunity~~ in aggregate with different entities forming a loan syndicate; and

- wherein if said requirement is a loan origination then the first entity is a loan syndicator and the second entity is a potential lender; and

- 30 whereby said loan opportunity is pending agreement.

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~~whereby first entity is different to second entity~~

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Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1 includes the step to
5 anonymize the identities of the entities.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1 includes providing a
feedback routine for commenting about the entities and said feedback is submitted by the
10 entities wherein feedback submitted is accessible by a plurality of entities over said
network.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended). The method in claim 1 further including the steps:

providing ratings associated with the entities based on past syndication data.
receiving acceptance by final borrower and creating said loan facility.

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Claim 5. (Previously Presented). The method in claim 1 further includes an auction
routine for entities to place loan commitment bids and whereby more than one entity can
be selected forming the syndication.

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Claim 6. (Currently Amended). The method in claim 1 wherein if said requirement is a
lending then the first entity is a potential lender and the second entity is a loan syndicator.

Claim 7. (Canceled)

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Claim 8. (Currently Amended). The method as described in Claim 1 includes a step:
updating online electronic documents incorporating said negotiated conditions and terms
before creating the loan syndicate by agreement.

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~~adapting at least negotiated terms of loan to be incorporated in said loan facility.~~

Claim 9. (Canceled)

Claim 10-20 (Canceled)

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for syndicating a loan, comprising:

a programmed computer, further comprising:

a memory having at least one region for storing executable program code; and
a processor for executing the program code stored in the memory, wherein the program code, further comprising:

code to receive a request to post a requirement to syndicate a loan ~~facility opportunity~~ by a first entity over a network;

code to display information about said requirement accessible by a plurality of entities over a network;

~~code for receiving offers said first entity to receive an online comment about conditions and terms of loan opportunity~~ in response to said requirement from one or more second entities ~~wherein said offer includes at least a comment~~ over a network;

code for responding to said comment by enabling said first entity to negotiate with said second entity or other different second entities over a network about committing at least a portion of said loan ~~facility opportunity~~ in aggregate with other different entities forming a loan syndicate; and

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wherein if said requirement is a loan origination then the first entity is a loan syndicator and the second entity is a potential lender; and

5 whereby said loan opportunity is pending agreement.

whereby first entity is different to second entity.

Claim 22. (Previously Presented). The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein program
10 code further include codes for an auction routine and whereby more than one entity can be selected forming the syndication.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended). The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein program
code further include codes implementing a feedback routine for commenting about said
15 entities and said feedback is submitted by said entities wherein feedback submitted is
accessible by a plurality of entities over said network.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented). The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein program
code further include codes to anonymize the identities of said entities.

20 Claim 25. (Currently Amended) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code for negotiating and managing a loan syndication implementing the method of Claim 1, comprising :

25 receiving a request to post a requirement to syndicate a loan opportunity by a first entity over a network;

displaying information about said requirement accessible by a plurality of entities over a network;

in response to said requirement, said first entity receiving an online comment from one or more second entities about conditions and terms of said loan opportunity over a network;

5 in response to said comment, enabling said first entity to negotiate said conditions and terms with said second entity or other different second entities over a network about committing at least a portion of said loan opportunity in aggregate with other different entities forming a loan syndicate;

10 providing ratings associated with said entities based on past syndication data; and
whereby said loan opportunity is pending agreement.

Claim 26. (Previously Presented) A system for negotiating and managing loan
15 syndication over a network implementing the method of claim 1.

Claim 27. (canceled)

Claim 28. (Previously Presented) A system for negotiating and managing loan
20 syndication over a network implementing the method of claim 4.

Claim 29. (Previously Presented) A system for negotiating and managing loan
syndication over a network implementing the method of claim 5.

25 Claim 30. (Previously Presented) A system for negotiating and managing loan
syndication over a network implementing the method of claim 6.

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) A system for negotiating and managing loan
syndication over a network implementing the method of claim 8.

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Claim 32. (Canceled)

5 Claim 33. (NEW) A system for negotiating and managing loan syndication over a network implementing the method of claim 3.

10 Claim 34. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein program code further include codes implementing steps to provide ratings associated with said entities based on past syndication data.

Claim 35. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said requirement is a lending then first entity is a potential lender and second entity is a loan syndicator.

15 Claim 36. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein program code further include codes implementing steps to update online electronic documents incorporating said negotiated conditions and terms before creating said loan syndicate by agreement.